

SSAland

Story

Daphne Dixon of the Hearing & Appeals Office in Long Beach is an avid volunteer. She played a key role on the T-Shirt Team at the FVC Kickoff. You may recall her picture in Photoland. In her words:

- “Shoreline Community Church: As a homeless volunteer (500+ annual hours for three years), I have been trained and participated in numerous in-services to prepare me for various tasks. I counsel, talk to, and assist Homeless and/or nearly Homeless women and men (close to 5,000 annually) and help tend to their physical needs, e.g., clothing, shelter, jobs, job training, and food. The program is designed and money is allotted to provide for and feed every three months an estimated 1200 people. We provide donated clothes, shoes, vitamins, fruit, and packages of dry goods. We stress the importance of healthy living and routine medical check-ups for them and their families and help establish a medical check-up routine for all interested. Spiritual guidance & Bible study are highly promoted to all. Working with the homeless has been very interesting & challenging. I have been able to help numerous families secure housing and parents receive jobs and/or job training and a new start. This has been very rewarding for me and I receive a lot of satisfaction from contributing to their advancements.
- “Top Sail Youth Program: In February 1999, I became involved in this program at the L.A. Maritime Institute in San Pedro, which provides character-building sailing training and adventures for youth (intervention for “at-risk” youth) aboard classic ships, Swift of Ipswich & Bill of Rights. Top Sail uses sailing training to provide youth with the opportunity to learn the skills & behaviors needed to live successful, healthy lives as contributing members of our society. The youths go on sailing adventures to Catalina Island and San Francisco, are involved in boat races, etc. The goal is never to turn a kid away for lack of money and never to sail with an empty berth.”
- Daphne also volunteers over 70 annual hours for the West Long Beach Association (10 years) and over 200 yearly hours for the Antioch Baptist Church (15 years).

Through these organizations she has helped over 3000 people. She checked make the world better as her first reason, feel good about myself volunteering as the second reason, religious as the third reason, and increase skills and knowledge as the fifth reason. She wrote in “Altruistic” as her fourth reason.